



Pepin County dairy penalized for unpasteurized milk distribution in Durand

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MADISON, Wisconsin – The owners of a Pepin County dairy, Roland and Diana Reed of Arkansaw, have agreed to penalties stemming from a foodborne illness outbreak that sickened 32 Durand High School students and coaches in September 2015, said food safety officials today. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) announcement comes after a thorough review of the investigation report written by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS).

"After reviewing the circumstances described in the final DHS epidemiological and laboratory report, we have determined that the farm violated current statutes and rules by distributing unpasteurized milk in an unauthorized manner, so we are taking appropriate action," said Dr. Steve Ingham, administrator of the Division of Food Safety for DATCP.

The Reeds have agreed to a DATCP plan that includes suspending the farm's Grade A permit for 30 days. If the farm violates the conditions of the agreement within three years, the Grade A permit will be suspended again for 150 days for the current violation and their Grade A permit will be revoked for no less than six months for the additional violation. After revocation, the Reeds must reapply to be considered again for Grade A status.

"Our goal is to prevent a reoccurrence by changing the practices that led to this outbreak," Ingham says. "We take our responsibility to protect public health seriously and uniformly enforce the law."

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